

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180476

62

ORIGIN AID-20

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TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNIDO, EAID, OCON

SUBJECT: UNIDO - DOCUMENTATION FOR AD HOC COMMITTEE

REF: (A) VIENNA 7315; (B) STATE 174554; (C) STATE A-7365

1. APPRECIATE MISSION'S FRANK REACTION REFTEL (B), INTENT OF WHICH IS TO INVITE ABDEL-RAHMAN TO GIVE AD HOC COMMITTEE HIS "REAL" ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RAISED. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT AT PC II HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT 1974-75 AND 1976-77 PROGRAM/BUDGETS DID NOT RESPOND TO INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY NEEDS, GOALS, PRIORITIES, ETC., IN SECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, BUT RESPONDED INSTEAD PRIMARILY TO UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAM AND OTHER-SOURCE REQUESTS.

2. MISSION QUESTIONS IN REFTEL (A), PARAS A AND B, SURFACE IMPORTANT RELEVANT ISSUES REGARDING GENERAL UN AND UNDP PROGRAM/BUDGETING PROCESSES. AS MISSION CORRECTLY SUGGESTS, CONTRARY TO INFERENCE DRAWN REFERENCE (C), AL-

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PAGE 02 STATE 180476

THOUGH WE ACCEPT UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMING PROCEDURES WE

ARE NOT FULLY SATISFIED THAT CURRENT RESULTS REFLECT REAL NEEDS AND PRIORITIES AS YET. WE BELIEVE THERE IS NEED FOR MORE EXPERT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS AND PLANNING AND THAT UNIDO SHOULD PLAY A MORE USEFUL ROLE IN THIS REGARD IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR. EXERCISE REQUESTED

IN PARA 1, REFTEL (B) SHOULD HELP GET UNIDO TO FOCUS MORE CLEARLY ON HOW TO MEET PRIORITY NEEDS NOW. HOWEVER, INTEREST IS NOT TO MOVE NECESSARILY IN DIRECTION OF "CENTRAL STATEMENT OF NEEDS," AS SUGGESTED IN LAST SENTENCE PARA B, REFTEL A. HOPEFULLY, UNIDO RESPONSE TO DOCUMENTATION REQUEST WOULD HELP PROVIDE COMMITTEE GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF WAYS TO MAKE UNIDO AND UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AS A WHOLE ADDRESS REAL NEEDS OF FUTURE SITUATION MORE FULLY THAN THEY NOW DOING.

3. HOWEVER, IF AFTER CONSIDERING ABOVE, MISSION STILL FIRMLY CONVINCED SUCH REQUEST WOULD TEND PRODUCE UNPRODUCTIVE REACTION AND/OR WOULD NOT IN ANY CASE ADD TO UNIDO'S FOCUSING ON SORTING OUT PRIORITIES, MORE EFFICIENT RESOURCE UTILIZATION, ETC., THEN MISSION MAY SUBSTITUTE MORE GENERALIZED REQUEST FOR ANALYSIS OF HOW UNIDO ENVISAGES ITS ROLE IN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF MEETING PRIORITY NEEDS, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF COUNTRY PROGRAMMING PROCEDURES. WHILE LATTER REQUEST WOULD GIVE SECRETARIAT MORE LEEWAY WITH BASICALLY THE SAME ISSUES AS CONTAINED IN INITIAL SUGGESTION, IT WOULD ALSO HAVE DISADVANTAGE OF OFFERING UNIDO GREATER OPPORTUNITY TO FINESSE ADDRESSING REAL ISSUES.

4. AGREE WITH MISSION'S SUGGESTION THAT REQUEST IN PARA 4, REFTEL (B) BE RESTRICTED TO PERIOD SINCE INTRODUCTION OF COUNTRY PROGRAMMING AND THAT REQUEST ALSO COVER UNIDO PROJECTS NOT INCLUDED IN UNDP IPF'S. RUSH

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